

Preliminary Amendment

Attorney Reference: 041301/0284989

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REMARKS

The present amendment adds reference to the priority applications to the specification and further amends Claims 3-10, 12, 15, 17 and 19-20 to remove multiple dependencies from the claims. No new matter has been added.

Favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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y: remarked

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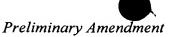
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Attachment: Appendix



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APPENDIX: VERSION TO SHOWS CHANGES MADE TO APPLICATION

In the Claims

The claims were amended as follows:

- 11. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein the polyester has a Tg of at least 75°C.
- 12. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein the polyester has a Tg of about 77°C and a molecular weight of about 7,500.
- 13. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the coating further comprises filler material.
- 14. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to [any one of the preceding claims] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein the coating further comprises one or more ultra-violet light absorbers.
- 15. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the coating further comprises one or more optical brighteners.
- 16. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to [any one of the preceding claims] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein the substrate comprises a film of heat-resistant material selected from polyesters, polyamides, polyimides, polycarbonates, polysulphones, polypropylene and cellophane.
- 17. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the coating has a thickness in the range 0.5 to 5.0μm, preferably 1.5 to 3.5μm, typically 1.6 to 2.0μm.
- 18. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, further comprising a subcoat between the substrate and coating.
- 13. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the other surface of the substrate has a heat-resistant backcoat.



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- 15. (Amended) A method of forming an overlay on a receiver material, comprising superposing a thermal transfer medium in accordance with [any one of claims 1 to 13] <u>claim 1</u> and a receiver material; and applying localised heating to the thermal transfer medium to form an overlay on the receiver material.
- 18. (Amended) Receiver material bearing an overlay produced by the method of claim 15 [or 16].
- 19. (Amended) Receiver material according to claim 17 [or 18], wherein the receiver material has an image-receiving surface comprising vinyl chloride/vinyl acetate copolymer.
- 20. (Amended) Receiver material according to claim 17[, 18 or 19,] in the form of an identification card bearing a full colour image produced by thermal transfer printing and text and/or a bar code produced by mass transfer printing of colorant.